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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/788,769	02/27/2004	Mayumi Takeda	KOT-0090	8475
23413 7590 06/03/2008 CANTOR COLBURN, LLP 20 Church Street 22nd Floor Hartford, CT 06103				
EXAMINER MAHMOOD, REZWANUL				
ART UNIT		PAPER NUMBER		
2164				
MAIL DATE		DELIVERY MODE		
06/03/2008		PAPER		

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/788,769

Applicant(s)

TAKEDA, MAYUMI

Examiner

REZWANUL MAHMOOD

Art Unit

2164

Period for Reply -- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 27 March 2008.
- 2a) ☒ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☐ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1.5-7, 10, 11 and 13-23 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1.5-7, 10, 11 and 13-23 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SF/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application
- 6) ☐ Other: _____

DETAILED ACTION

1. This action is in response to the communication filed on March 27, 2008.

Response to Amendment

2. Claims 1, 5-7, 10, 11, and 13-23 are pending in this office action.

Response to Arguments

3. Applicant's arguments filed on March 27, 2008 have been fully considered but they are not persuasive for the following reasons:

Applicant argues that Fujino in view of Martinez discloses "selecting an existing name from a list of pre-existing directory structures", "can not input a first name and a second name that is not already displayed on the video display terminal" and "keyboard of Martinez is not an inputting device used to input a first and second name". Applicant argues that Fujino and Martinez does not teach or even suggest the features "a user can input a first name and a second name with an inputting device", "input a name that does not exist in the storage medium as the first name and second name".

Examiner respectfully disagrees all of the allegations as argued. Examiner, in his previous office action, gave detail explanation of claimed limitation and pointed out exact locations in the cited prior art.

Examiner is entitled to give claim limitations their broadest reasonable interpretation in light of the specification. See MPEP 2111 [R-1]

Interpretation of Claims-Broadest Reasonable Interpretation

During patent examination, the pending claims must be 'given the broadest reasonable interpretation consistent with the specification.' Applicant always has the opportunity to amend the claims during prosecution and broad interpretation by the examiner reduces the possibility that the claim, once issued, will be interpreted more broadly than is justified. In re Prater, 162 USPQ 541,550-51 (CCPA 1969).

Fujino teaches in Column 7 lines 1-45, Figures 11-12 and Martinez teaches in Column 3 lines 57-65, Column 7 lines 1-9; Figures 4A and 5B searching, by inputting the first name and the second name with an inputting device, a plurality of directory structures in a storage medium for a prescribed directory structure, wherein the directory structure is a hierarchical structure and the prescribed directory structure includes at least two directories of a directory having a first name and a directory having a second name, and extracting all the prescribed directory structure comprising the directory having the first name and the directory having the second name in the storage medium, as claimed in independent claims 1, 7 and 19. There are no limitations in the claims that state "the user can not select from pre-existing folders or files that exist in the display window" and "an operator or user can input a name that does not exist in the storage medium as the first name and the second name". Both Fujino and Martinez discloses selection can be made by an inputting device such as a mouse and also discloses other type of inputting devices such as keyboard, track-ball and stylus that can be used for providing user input (Fujino: Column 4 lines 45-49; Figure 1; Martinez: Column 5, lines 58-67; Column 6, lines 1-6). The keyboard being an alphanumeric input device which can be used to input characters.

For the above reasons, Examiner believes that rejection of the last Office action was proper.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

4. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

Claims 1, 5-7, 10, 11 and 13-23 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Fujino (US Patent 7,178,110) in view of Martinez (US Patent 6,271,846).

With respect to claim 1, Fujino discloses a directory searching method of searching a plurality of directory structures in a storage medium for a prescribed directory structure, wherein the plurality of directory structures constitutes a hierarchical structure and the prescribed directory structure includes at least two directories (Fujino: Column 7, lines 1-45; Figure 11; Figure 12; Here the hierarchical directory structure includes at least two directories).

However, Fujino does not explicitly disclose a directory having a first name and a directory having a second name.

The Martinez reference, however, discloses a hierarchical directory structure with at least two directories of a directory having a first name and a directory having a

second name (Martinez: Figure 5A; Here a hierarchical directory structure has at least two directories and the directories have different names).

Therefore, it would have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art, at the time the invention was made, to modify the teachings of Fujino with the teachings of Martinez to have at least two directories of a directory having a first name and a directory having a second name to provide manipulations of directory tree structures in a computer system (Martinez: Column 4, lines 58-59).

Fujino in view of Martinez discloses:

the directory searching method comprising:

inputting the first name and the second name with an inputting device (Fujino: Column 7, lines 1-45; Figure 11; Figure 12; Martinez: Column 3, lines 57-65; Column 7, lines 1-9; Figure 4A; Figure 5B; Here the user inputs the first name and the second name with an inputting device such as a mouse);

searching the plurality of directory structures based on the first name and the second name so as to extract all the prescribed directory structure comprising the directory having the first name and the directory having the second name in the storage medium (Fujino: Column 7, lines 1-45; Figure 11; Figure 12; Martinez: Column 3, lines 57-65; Column 7, lines 1-9; Figure 4A; Figure 5B); and

displaying at least part of the prescribed directory structure extracted in the searching step (Fujino: Column 7, lines 1-45; Figure 11; Figure 12; Martinez: Column 3, lines 57-65; Column 7, lines 1-9; Figure 4A; Figure 5B);

wherein the directory having the second name is in the same hierarchy level as

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the hierarchy level on the directory having the first name (Fujino: Column 7, lines 1-45; Figure 11; Figure 12; Martinez: Column 3, lines 57-65; Column 7, lines 1-9; Figure 4A; Figure 5B; Here the directory having the second name can be in the same hierarchy level as the directory having the first name).

With respect to claim 5, Fujino in view of Martinez discloses the directory searching method of claim 1, further comprising:

selecting a part of the prescribed directory structure extracted in the searching step (Fujino: Column 7, lines 1-45; Figure 11; Figure 12; Martinez: Column 3, lines 57-65; Column 7, lines 1-9; Figure 4A; Figure 5B).

With respect to claim 6, Fujino in view of Martinez discloses the directory searching method of claim 1, wherein the at least two directories store a set data containing at least one of image data, sound data and sound image data (Fujino: Column 8, lines 50-63; Figure 20).

With respect to claim 7, Fujino in view of Martinez discloses a directory searching apparatus for searching a plurality of directory structures in a storage medium for a prescribed directory, wherein the plurality of directory structures constitutes a hierarchical structure and the prescribed directory structure includes at least two directories of a directory having a first name and a directory having a second name (Fujino: Column 7, lines 1-45; Figure 11; Figure 12; Martinez: Column 3, lines 57-65;

Column 7, lines 1-9; Figure 4A; Figure 5B), the directory searching apparatus comprising:

an inputting device to input the first name and the second name (Fujino: Column 7, lines 1-45; Figure 11; Figure 12; Martinez: Column 3, lines 57-65; Column 7, lines 1-9; Figure 4A; Figure 5B; Here the user inputs the first name and the second name with an inputting device such as a mouse);

a searching device for searching the plurality of directory structures based on the first name and the second name so as to extract all the prescribed directory structure comprising the directory having the first name and the directory having the second name in the storage medium (Fujino: Column 7, lines 1-45; Figure 11; Figure 12; Martinez: Column 3, lines 57-65; Column 7, lines 1-9; Figure 4A; Figure 5B);

displaying device to display at least a part of the prescribed directory structure extracted by the searching device (Fujino: Column 7, lines 1-45; Figure 11; Figure 12; Martinez: Column 3, lines 57-65; Column 7, lines 1-9; Figure 4A; Figure 5B);

wherein the directory having the second name is in the same hierarchy level as the hierarchy level of the directory having the first name (Fujino: Column 7, lines 1-45; Figure 11; Figure 12; Martinez: Column 3, lines 57-65; Column 7, lines 1-9; Figure 4A; Figure 5B; Here the directory having the second name can be in the same hierarchy level as the directory having the first name).

With respect to claim 10, Fujino in view of Martinez discloses the directory searching apparatus of claim 7, further comprising: a range specification device to

specify a search range (Fujino: Column 7, lines 1-45; Martinez: Figure 5B; Here the user can specify a search range with a mouse).

With respect to claim 11, Fujino in view of Martinez discloses the directory searching apparatus of claim 10, wherein the search range is the top and bottom level in the directory structure (Fujino: Column 7, lines 1-45; Martinez: Figure 5B; Here the range is the top and bottom level in a directory structure).

With respect to claim 13, Fujino in view of Martinez discloses the directory searching apparatus of claim 7, further comprising of:

a selecting device to select a part of the prescribed directory structure extracted by the searching device (Fujino: Column 7, lines 1-45; Figure 9; Figure 10).

With respect to claim 14, Fujino in view of Martinez discloses the directory searching apparatus of claim 7, wherein the at least two directories store a set data containing at least one of image data, sound data and sound image data (Fujino: Column 7, lines 1-45; Column 8, lines 50-63; Figure 20).

With respect to claim 15, Fujino in view of Martinez discloses a directory searching program comprising step of controlling a computer to function as a directory searching method o claim 1 (Fujino: Column 7, lines 1-45; Figure 9).

With respect to claim 16, Fujino in view of Martinez discloses a directory searching program comprising a controlling section to control a computer to function as a directory searching apparatus of claim 7 (Fujino: Column 7, lines 1-45; Figure 9).

With respect to claim 17, Fujino in view of Martinez discloses a storage medium comprising data corresponding to the directory searching program of claim 15 (Fujino: Column 7, lines 1-45; Figure 9).

With respect to claim 18, Fujino in view of Martinez discloses a storage medium comprising data corresponding to the directory searching program of claim 16 (Fujino: Column 7, lines 1-45; Figure 9).

With respect to claim 19, Fujino in view of Martinez discloses a directory searching method of searching a plurality of directory structures in a storage medium for a prescribed directory structure, wherein the plurality of directory structures constitutes a hierarchical structure and the prescribed directory structure includes at least two directories of a directory having a first name and a directory having a second name (Fujino: Column 7, lines 1-45; Figure 11; Figure 12; Martinez: Column 3, lines 57-65; Column 7, lines 1-9; Figure 4A; Figure 5B), the directory searching method comprising: inputting the first name and the second name with a inputting device (Fujino: Column 7, lines 1-45; Figure 11; Figure 12; Martinez: Column 3, lines 57-65; Column 7, lines 1-9; Figure 4A; Figure 5B; Here the user inputs the first name and the second

name with an inputting device such as a mouse);

searching the plurality of directory structures based on the first name and the second name so as to extract all the prescribed directory structure comprising the directory having the first name and the directory having the second name in the storage medium (Fujino: Column 7, lines 1-45; Figure 11; Figure 12; Martinez: Column 3, lines 57-65; Column 7, lines 1-9; Figure 4A; Figure 5B); and

displaying at least part of the prescribed directory structure extracted in the searching step (Fujino: Column 7, lines 1-45; Figure 11; Figure 12; Martinez: Column 3, lines 57-65; Column 7, lines 1-9; Figure 4A; Figure 5B);

wherein the directory having the second name is in the hierarchy level below the hierarchy level of the directory having the first name (Fujino: Column 7, lines 1-45; Figure 11; Figure 12; Martinez: Column 3, lines 57-65; Column 7, lines 1-9; Figure 4A; Figure 5B; Here the directory having the second name can be in the hierarchy level below the hierarchy level of the directory having the first name).

With respect to claim 20, Fujino in view of Martinez discloses the directory searching method of claim 1, wherein the inputting device is a keyboard (Fujino: Column 4 lines 45-49; Figure 1; Martinez: Column 5, lines 58-67; Column 6, lines 1-6)

With respect to claim 21, Fujino in view of Martinez discloses the directory searching apparatus of claim 7, wherein the inputting device is a keyboard (Fujino: Column 4 lines 45-49; Figure 1; Martinez: Column 5, lines 58-67; Column 6, lines 1-6).

With respect to claim 22, Fujino in view of Martinez discloses the directory searching method of claim 19, wherein the inputting device is a keyboard (Fujino: Column 4 lines 45-49; Figure 1; Martinez: Column 5, lines 58-67; Column 6, lines 1-6).

With respect to claim 23, Fujino in view of Martinez discloses the directory searching method of claim 1, wherein the inputting device is a character input device (Fujino: Column 4 lines 45-49; Figure 1; Martinez: Column 5, lines 58-67; Column 6, lines 1-6).

Conclusion

5. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure. The Shi reference (US Patent 6,625,615) teaches about data processing system and method for multi-level directory searches. The Sedlar reference (US Patent 6,427,123) teaches about hierarchical indexing for accessing hierarchically organized information in a relational system. The Brechner reference (US Publication 2004/0215643) teaches about organizing and searching media contents. The Sakai reference (US Publication 2004/0056903) teaches about a directory management program.

6. **THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL.** Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire THREE MONTHS from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within TWO MONTHS of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the THREE-MONTH shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the mailing date of this final action.

Contact Information

7. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to REZWANUL MAHMOOD whose telephone number is (571)272-5625. The examiner can normally be reached on M - F 10 A.M. - 5 P.M..

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Charles Rones can be reached on (571)272-4085. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

/R. M./
Examiner, Art Unit 2164

/Shahid Al Alam/
Primary Examiner, Art Unit 2162

June 1, 2008